

opportunities we're going to provide them. I think it's unfair for us not to discuss it and simply to throw it away because the money comes out of the roads. The money may have to come from somewhere else and I think Senator Warner is probably correct, the lottery is a good place to look for some of that, but I think it's unfair of us as a body to say that simply because a sacred cow seems to be attacked in this bill that we shouldn't discuss it, anymore than it would be fair to do the same thing to Senator Lamb's bill on the railroad. For that purpose, I think we ought to bring this bill to the floor and let the body discuss its merits. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Horgan. Senator Rasmussen.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Thank you. I want to respond to several issues that have been brought up today. One is, Senator Moore talked about piecemealing, talking about coming up with a comprehensive plan as a better alternative, and talked about sort of alluding that the things that are in this bill that we've identified have sort of been pulled out of the sky. They have not been pulled out of the sky. There have been years and years of studies and discussions about what quality education is. We have that knowledge. We don't need to talk about it anymore. We need to move on it and the school districts are ready. I've talked to plenty of school districts. They know what they need to do, but they're talking about major changes in the way they've been organized and they need a little carrot out there to get them going and that's what this is all about. I would be glad to share with anybody in the body all the documentation for every one of those things that is listed in there. Those aren't just willy-nilly. There is a very good reason for why they are in the bill. They come out of many of the studies that we've done nationally as well as the state and local level. In terms of how is all this money going to be distributed, we have other models. We have precedents for doing it this way. The Child Abuse Prevention Fund is set up the very same way. We established the intent of what is supposed to happen with this money and then we establish a group that decides exactly how it's going to be disseminated, the RFP parameters. And that group also then begins to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness and it is in the bill that they would then report back to the Legislature regarding that effectiveness. In terms of being exempt from the lid, it has to be exempt from the lid. They are just going to have enough money to maintain the status quo. They need a little something